



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SSL0093-2/DM	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/001686	International filing date (day/month/year) 05 juin 2003 (05.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 07 juin 2002 (07.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C07D 417/14, 401/14, A61K 31/497, A61P 25/28		
Applicant SANOFI-AVENTIS		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 19 décembre 2003 (19.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

- the international application as originally filed
 the description:

pages _____ 1-46 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the claims:
 pages _____ 1-9 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the drawings:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:**

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig. _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The following documents will be used throughout the procedure:

D1: FR-A-2 803 593;

D2: WO 00/69829 A.

Novelty:

Claims 1-9 of the present application fulfil the requirements set forth in PCT Article 33(2) because their subject matter is novel. Documents D1 and D2 disclose only compounds with structures that are not particularly similar. The compounds of D1 and the compounds of the present application differ by virtue of the presence of the double bond in the piperidine ring, the presence of a carbonyl grouping and of piperazine instead of a benzothiophene or benzofuran grouping. D2 discloses compounds that are entirely different because they are all based on a tricyclic skeleton.

Inventive step:

D1 describes compounds that have TNF activity and does not

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mention any p75 receptors. D2, which is considered to be the closest prior art, describes compounds that have an activity with respect to the p75 receptor. As indicated above, the structures of the compounds of D2 differ from those in the present invention. The technical problem is that of producing compounds that have an activity with respect to the p75 receptor. On the basis of the description and the examples, it can be assumed that all of the compounds as per claim 1 solve the stated technical problem. D2 does not provide any structural indications that would enable a person skilled in the art to produce the same molecules and solve the technical problem. As a result, the invention is not obvious and the requirements set forth in PCT Article 33(3) are met.